



SCENIC RIM DISCOVERY HIKE

Immerse yourself in a relatively untouched and undiscovered part of Queensland on an unforgettable active adventure through South East Queensland's Scenic Rim.

Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries



Australia, Queensland



10 days, from AU\$8,445pp



Private

VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM

Journey Overview

Immerse yourself in a gastronomic discovery of Brisbane's most revered restaurants and wineries, before embarking on an unforgettable Scenic Rim hiking adventure with expert guides. You'll venture off the beaten track, hearing fascinating stories of the landscape and its unique evolution, as you explore the Great Dividing Range and World Heritage-listed Gondwana National Park. Be inspired as you traverse vast uninhabited terrain, sub-tropical wilderness, volcanic plateaus, spectacular vistas and ancient rainforests. Spend each evening in sustainably built and luxury Spicers Retreats, enjoying delicious group feasts around open fires with new friends.

Journey Highlights

- Make life-long friends in an intimate small-group hike
- Enjoy insider knowledge and off-the-beaten path adventures with skilled guides
- Relish an unforgettable private tour of Brisbane's best wineries
- Traverse the cliff-rimmed escarpment of an ancient volcano
- Hold your breath as you are harnessed up the 16 m rock 'ladder' of Mt Mistake

Note: The walking component of this journey is a scheduled, shared group activity.



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Brisbane

On arrival into Brisbane, make your way to trendy New Farm where you'll stay at the award-winning boutique Spicers Balfour Hotel. Relax and indulge in art deco inspired spaces at this beautifully converted Queenslander retreat, expertly designed with warm architecture, sweeping spaces and true charm.

Tonight's options abound. Perhaps dine in the multi-award-winning Balfour Kitchen, and taste their masterful Vietnamese cuisine, before finishing with a night cap at the rooftop bar surrounded by stunning views of the city.

Spicers Balfour Hotel

Day 2: Scenic Rim Wineries

Today you'll savour a full-day private tour of local and boutique Scenic Rim Wineries, where you'll meet some of the most congenial and warm vintners in Australia. From Paradine Estate, to Normanby Wines and on to Kooroomba Vineyards and Lavender Farm, dissect and savour a huge range of varieties – with ample cheese, fruit and nuts to soften the palate. With stunning views over the Scenic Rim, take in the vast and beautiful terrain you'll soon be hiking. Then settle in for a night of "Balfour" luxury, creating leisure as you please.

Spicers Balfour Hotel / L

Day 3: Brisbane - Spicers Mt Mistake

This morning, enjoy a transfer to meet your fellow guides and walkers for your first full day of hiking.

Your guides use the natural rock escarpments to safely lead the way, through an ecosystem of dry sclerophyll forest with stunning views across the valleys. Take a magnificent 600 m ascent up Mount Mistake and hold your breath as you are harnessed up to the 16 m rock 'ladder' near the mountain top.

Arrive at Spicers Mt Mistake to your transferred luggage, a cool drink, and a great sense of achievement. Your cosy cabins this evening combine the style and comfort of a luxury retreat with the warmest of country welcomes.

Enjoy a delicious dinner with your hiking family, before retiring to your mountain-top retreat, or relaxing by the fire for some lively conversation.

Total walking distance: 12 km.

Spicers Mt Mistake / LD

Day 4: Spicers Mt Mistake - Spicers Amphitheatre

If you've retired early, a dawn awakening to catch the magnificent sun rise over the mountain range is well recommended.

Today's terrain is rough, unmarked and stunning, as you enter the World Heritage-listed Gondwana Rainforest. Learn about the earth's evolutionary history from your guides who impart expert knowledge of the ancient supercontinent that broke up 180 million years ago. Be dwarfed by the temporary nature of the wilderness as you get lost in stories of the earth's constant state of flux, while learning about the forests many threatened species of plants and animals.

The final stretch of the day will see you emerge from the forest into the luxury Spicers Amphitheatre Eco Cabins. Enjoy a drink at sunset, and a delicious feast, before slumber in your very own treehouse cabin.

Total walking distance: 18 km.

Spicers Amphitheatre Eco Cabins / BLD

Day 5: Spicers Amphitheatre - Spicers Timber Getters

This morning, you may like to prepare the body with some light yoga on your private balcony – each cabin comes with a mat – before breakfast.

Today's hike begins with a relatively flat trail back into the national park swathed by fabulous wildlife and bird song. Much of today's walk is on unmarked trails. Traverse wooded forests fringed by boulders, admiring ancient red cedar, white beech and hoop pine.

This afternoon features lots of bouldering, as you crouch down and enjoy a slower more deliberate pace, navigating ancient tree roots and rocky bluffs, before a climb up to Spicers Timber Getters Eco Cabins.

Tonight, enjoy a chef-prepared dinner in the beautiful dining room, before returning to your cabin among the Xanthorrhoea trees.

Total walking distance: 16 km.

Spicers Timber Getters Eco Cabins / BLD

Day 6: Spicers Timber Getters - Spicers Hidden Peaks Cabins

Today's hike begins with a heart-warming climb up the fire trail past the old pine plantation, before returning deep into the rainforest over rarely ventured and often precarious forest floors.

Much of the day's onward journey will explore an open ridgeline where you'll be spellbound by the vast beauty of the Scenic Rim. You'll emerge to a scramble over Bare Rock, which offers staggering 360-degree views over the Main Range National Park.

Finish with a descent down Mt Cordeaux, before arriving into Spicers Hidden Peaks Cabins, at the base of Mt Greville.

Here, you'll indulge in a private mountain oasis for the night, with incredible views of the Great Dividing Range.

Total walking distance: 16 km.

Spicers Hidden Peaks Cabins / BLD

Day 7: Spicers Hidden Peaks Cabins - Spicers Canopy Eco Camp

Today you'll journey over the mountain range and into Spicers Canopy, with a 480 m ascent offering great views of the escarpment to the north.

Be prepared for some rough and steep sections, with a selection of alternative routes depending on weather and trail conditions. You'll arrive at Spicers Canopy for afternoon tea and a well-earned shower.

Spend the rest of the afternoon relaxing in your glamping-style tent or enjoy a soak in the outdoor hot tub, a beautiful spot for sunset.

A delicious dinner tonight is followed by some fireside chit chat or a marvel at the stars if the night is clear.

Total walking distance: 12 km.

Spicers Canopy Eco Camp / BLD

Day 8: Spicers Canopy Eco Camp - Spicers Peak Lodge

This morning offers a stunning sunrise over the mountains if you're willing to wake at dawn. You may opt to relax at camp and be transferred to Spicers Peak Lodge or set out on your final day of hiking.

Today's trail is a lively descent into Oakey Creek, an undulating valley with fascinating indigenous history and a rocky creek that flows into the Logan River.

The final hike is incredibly rewarding as you ascend Spicers Peak and onto Cedar Mountain, a rigorous climb, before traversing the plateau and arriving at Spicers Peak Lodge.

This evening affords an incredible sense of achievement. Now it's time to relax and rejuvenate as tomorrow is spent entirely at your leisure.

Total walking distance: 15km.

Spicers Peak Lodge / BLD

Day 9 - Spicers Peak Lodge

Today is at your leisure for a much-earned day of rejuvenation.

Perhaps book a treatment at the Anise Day Spa, or if you're after more adventure book an exhilarating 4WD tour of the surrounding region.

The poolside spa is also a great place to enjoy a bottle of bubbles and watch the sunset.

Lunch and dinner will be held in the lodge – you can choose to dine as a group or on your own.

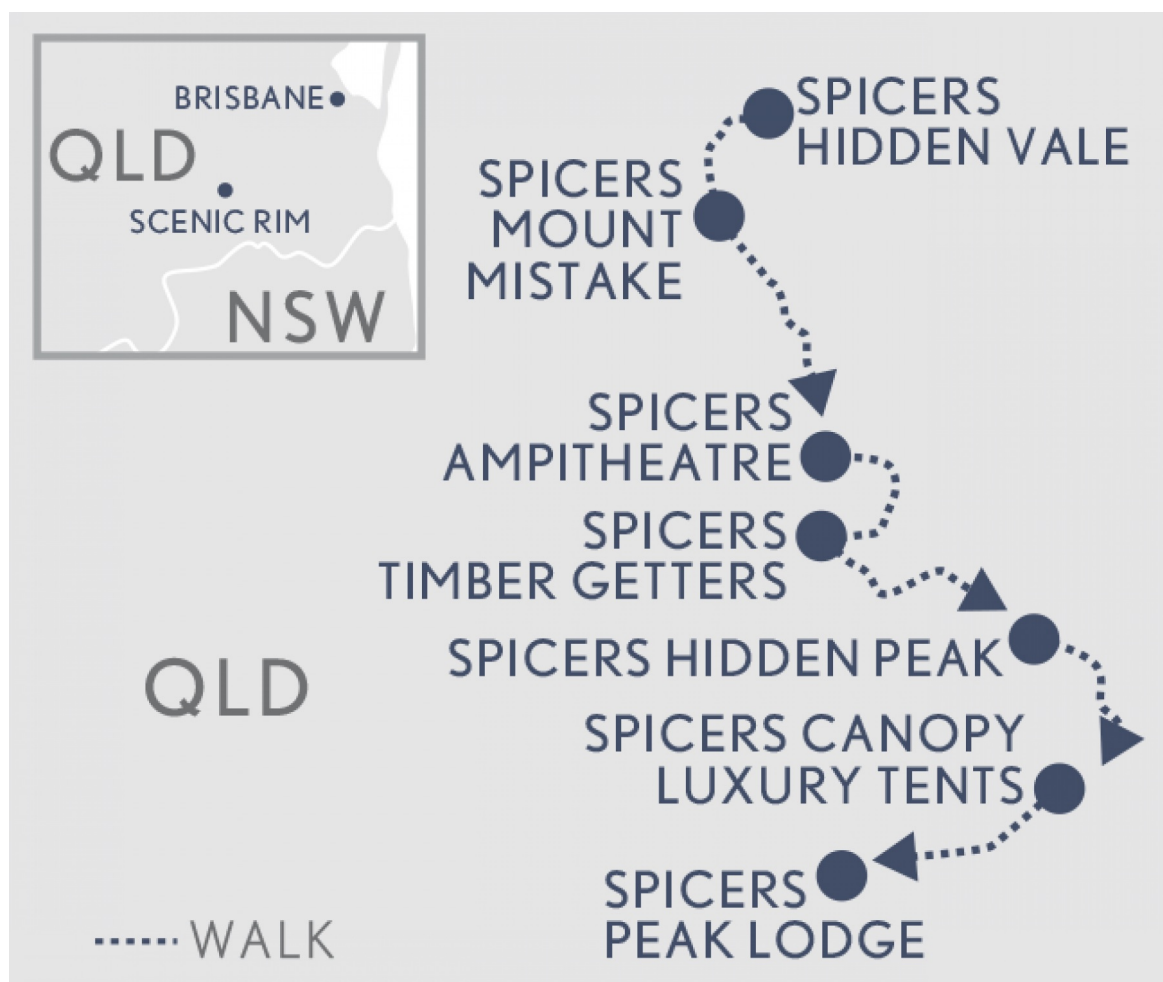
Spicers Peak Lodge / BLD

Day 10: Spicers Peak Lodge - Depart Brisbane

After a delightful breakfast and morning at leisure, enjoy a spectacular helicopter flight over the immense terrain you've traversed on foot, to Spicers Hidden Vale, before your transfer back to Brisbane.

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Map



Accommodation

Spicers Hidden Vale



Space to relax. Space to listen, to laugh, to embark on an adventure amongst the abundant wildlife. Experience the uniquely revitalising effect of spending time on 12,000 acres of true Australian Bush. Spicer's Hidden Vale is a gem, an uncomplicated escape just an hour's drive from Brisbane that combines the style and comfort of a luxury retreat with the warmest of country welcomes.

Designed in the style of a traditional Australian homestead from a bygone era, with beautifully restored cottages scattered through the distinctive grounds, the emphasis is on providing a charming country welcome without compromising on luxury – a perfect Queensland getaway.

Spicers Peak Lodge, Maryvale



Relax in the heights of luxury at this beautiful mountain lodge located just a two hour drive away from Brisbane. A member of Luxury Lodges of Australia, Spicers Peak Lodge is set on a 3,642 hectare cattle station and private nature reserve, and has a total of just 12 accommodations. Choose from seven Lodge Suites, three Spa Suites or two Private Lodges. Inspired by its surrounds, the lodge interiors have been adorned with natural woods, stone and glass –and for something extra special, you can splurge on the two bedroom Private Lodge with its outdoor infinity spa, wood burning fireplace and magnificent mountain valley views.

Taking advantage of local fresh and seasonal produce, The Peak restaurant has won many awards for its innovative á la carte menus served alongside the region's best wines. The lodge offers an abundance of activities for you to explore the natural surrounds from 4WD safaris and mountain bike trails to scenic helicopter flights and guided eco walks.

Why we like it

- Stunning mountain top location in the Scenic Rim
- Award-winning gourmet dining at The Peak restaurant
- Reconnect with nature in scenic surroundings
- Combine a stay here with a luxury safari-style camping experience at Spicers Canopy

Extraordinary Experiences

Our in-country presence allows our Journey Designers to include exceptional activities and experiences that are beyond the reach of the average traveller. Here are just a few examples.



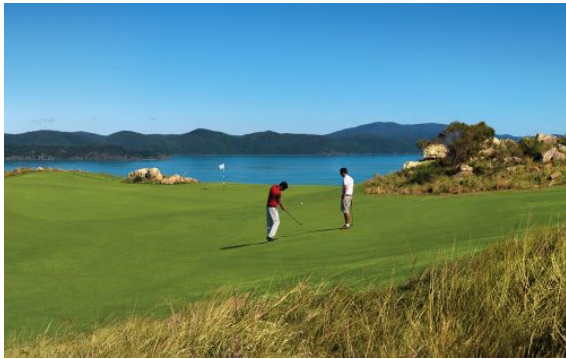
Heart Island Reef Experience

Enjoy an exhilarating helicopter flight to Heart Island in the Whitsundays landing on the floating helipad, where a secret staircase invites you to descend into a plush 'boat shed' where champagne, canapés and a glass-bottom boat awaits. Explore the magnificent Heart Reef before returning to the pontoon to snorkel and swim in the lagoon.



Go on an Aboriginal Walkabout

Travel with a guide through the ancestral country of the Kuku Yalanji people around Daintree and down to Port Douglas. They will share the stories, history, culture and traditions of their people, show you the way of the land, and take you to many culturally significant sites. A fantastic interactive experience that is perfect for families.



Experience Island Golf

Tee off on Australia's only 18-hole championship golf course on its own island. Hamilton Island Golf Club is located on Dent Island, alongside Hamilton Island, in the magnificent Whitsundays, offering some of the most spectacular views and settings of any golf course in the world.



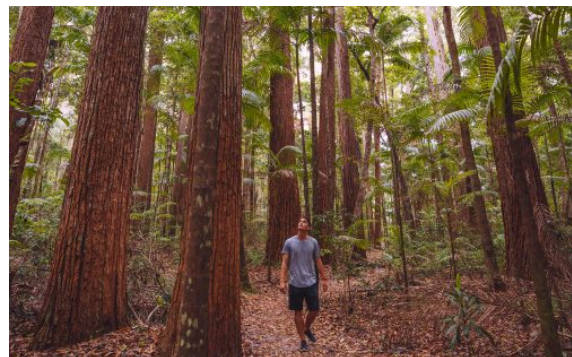
Marvel at the underwater wonders of Mossman Gorge

Admire the wildlife of the biodiverse Mossman River up close on a guided snorkelling tour. Keep your eyes peeled for turtles, water dragons and the elusive platypus as you drift with the current before an enthralling indigenous Smoking Ceremony, and an interpretive walk through the Daintree, learning the history and stories of the land.



Master flavours from around the world at Tamarind Cooking School

Travel with your tastebuds and learn the secrets of worldly cuisines under the guidance of talented chefs at Tamarind Cooking School. Overlooking inspirational gardens in the heart of a rainforest, try your hand at authentic Asian staples, flavourful French fare or delicious Italian dishes, and enjoy the fruits of your labour for lunch.



Lace up your boots and explore the best of Fraser Island's Great Walk

Explore off the beaten path on an active discovery of heritage listed Fraser island, with a multi-day walking tour that immerses you in the island's celebrated landscapes. Enjoy the serenity of coastal bushland, wander through lush rainforest scenes and be spellbound by pristine freshwater lakes on this otherworldly adventure.



Fly by helicopter to a private island picnic

Soar over the Coral Sea by helicopter, admiring the tropical rainforest-dotted coastline and azure waters, eyes peeled for turtles, dolphins, manta rays and even humpback whales. Touch down on idyllic Vlasoff Cay, a jewel in the heart of Australia's heritage-listed Great Barrier Reef and your perfect private haven for a gourmet island picnic.



Experience an Immersion into Aboriginal Art & Culture

Visit the Janbal Gallery in Mossman to learn how ancient Dreamtime stories and Aboriginal history is shared through art from local Aboriginal artist and co-owner of gallery, Brian "Binna" Swindley. Learn the stories and meanings behind some of Binna's paintings, and create your own unique souvenir to take home with you under the guidance of Binna.

Abercrombie & Kent

**Call Us Now on
1300 851 924
within Australia**

Melbourne Office:

T: +61 (0)3 9536 1800

F: +61 (0) 3 9536 1805

E: contact@abercrombiekent.com.au

Address

Level 3, 290 Coventry St
South Melbourne, VIC, 3205

International:

New Zealand Call: 0800 441 638

Asia Call: 800 4747 7700